IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applica	ant:	CARPER et al.)	
Applica	ation No.:)	Group Art Unit: n/a
Filed:		January 15, 2004)	Examiner: n/a
		RAMIC MATRIX CO SSIBILITY AND PER		RBINE BLADES FOR
Commi	top PATENT A issioner for Pa ox 1450 dria, VA 2231			
		INFORMATION D	ISCLOSURE	<u>STATEMENT</u>
SIR:				
	The following	are included with this	Information D	isclosure Statement:
[X]A.	PTO/SB/08			
[] B .	CERTIFIC (37 C.	ATION F.R. 1.97(c)-before fin	al Office Actio	n or allowance)
[] C.	•	E PAYMENT F.R. 1.97(c)-before fin	al Office Actio	n or allowance)
[] D .	PAYME			CITION FEE
	(37 C.F	.R.1.97(d)-before issue	e fee payment)	
37 CFF		are submitted in the a	bove-identified	application in compliance with
[] I.	- '	y of each listed U.S. Pa a)(2)(i)].	atent and U.S. I	Patent application publication
[X] II.	applica	ation. For each listed f		oublished foreign patent nd/or published foreign patent
[X]	applica a)			English translation if not e PTO-1449)[1.98(a)(3)];

- [] U.S. counterpart patents or English language equivalents of the foreign patents or published foreign patent applications (see PTO-1449); and/or
- [] (c) a concise explanation of the relevance of the listed patents, publications or other information (see PTO-1449, foreign search report or other, attached), as it is presently understood by the person signing this disclosure, since no English translation is currently available [1.98(a)(3)].
- [] III. A copy of each listed publication, other than published foreign applications. For each listed publication [1.98(a)(2)]:
 - [] (a) an English translation, if available, when the original publication is not in the English language (see PTO-1449)[1.98(a)(3)];
 - [] (b) a concise explanation of the listed publications (see PTO-1449), as it is presently understood by the person signing this disclosure, since no English translation is currently available [1.98(a)(3)].
- [] IV. For any other listed information, a copy of the information or that portion which caused it to be listed (see PTO-1449)[1.98(a)(2)(iii)].
- [] V. Each listed U.S. Patent, Publication or other information that was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, which application is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C.§ 120 [1.98(d)].
- [X] VI. Copies of each listed U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication are not being submitted herewith pursuant to a waiver of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) by the USPTO on July 11, 2003 for applications filed after June 30, 2003.

This information is submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with 37 C.F.R.1.97 because:

- [X] 1. This information disclosure is submitted within three months of the filing date of the application, or before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits of the application [1.97(b)].
- [] 2. This information disclosure is submitted before the mailing date of a final action in this application under 1.113[1.97(c)] and the requisite statement or fee is provided (see items 6 or 7 below).
- [] 3. This information disclosure is submitted before the mailing date of a notice of allowance under 1.311 [1.97(c)] and the requisite statement or fee is provided (see items 6 or 7 below).

- []4. This information disclosure is submitted after the mailing date of a final action under 1.113 [1.97(d)] and the requisite statement and fee is provided (see items 6 and 8 below).
- [] 5. This information disclosure is submitted after the mailing date of a notice of allowance under 1.311, but before the payment of the issue fee [1.97(d)] and the requisite statement and fee is provided (see items 6 and 8 below).
- [] 6. This information disclosure statement is submitted with the statement required for items 2, 3, 4 or 5 above [1.97(c), (d), (e)]:
- [] I, , hereby state the following:
 - [] Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
 - [] No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- This information disclosure statement is submitted with the fee of \$180 set forth in 1.17(p) [see items 2 and 3 above]. Please charge this fee and any other fees associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-1059. (Please note, no fee is required for items 2 and 3 above if the Item 6 statement is provided).
- [] 8. Please charge this fee and any other fees associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-1059.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 48,483

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Complete if Known **Application Number** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE January 15, 2004 Filing Date STATEMENT BY APPLICANT CARPER et al. First Named Inventor Group Art Unit n/a (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** n/a 121497 (07783-0172) Sheet 2 Attorney Docket Number

			U.S. PATENT [DOCUMENTS	
Examiner	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Releval
Initials *		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-1111		Figures Appear
	Α	US-6,532,657 B1	03-18-2003	Weimer et al.	
	В	US- 6,441,341 B1	08-27-2002	Steibel et al.	
	С	US- 6,428,740 B2	08-06-2002	Dunyak et al.	
	D	US- 6,403,210 B1	06-11-2002	Stuivinga et al.	
	E	US- 6,316,048 B1	11-13-2001	Steibel et al.	
	F	US- 6,284,357 B1	09-04-2001	Lackey et al.	
	G	US- 6,280,550 B1	08-28-2001	Steibel et al.	
	Н	US- 6,274,078 B1	08-14-2001	Dunyak et al.	
	1	US- 6,258,737 B1	07-10-2001	Steibel et al.	
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	K	US- 6,025,048	02-15-2000	Cutler et al.	
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	a	US- 5,804,306	09-08-1998	Sorenson et al.	
	R	US- 5,738,951	04-14-1998	Goujard et al.	
	S	US- 5,723,213	03-03-1998	Carpenter et al.	
	T	US- 5,490,892	02-13-1996	Castagnos et al.	

		FOREIGN PA	TENT DOCU	MENTS		
F	0:1-	Foreign Patent Document	Publication	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Date MM-DD-YYYY			T ⁶
	υ	EP 0 385 869 A1	09-05- 1990	Societe Europeenne De Propulsion		
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.qov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute	for form 1449A/PTC)		Complete if Known		
				Application Number		
INFO	RMATION	DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	January 15, 2004	-
STAT	TEMENT B	ΥΑ	PPLICANT	First Named Inventor	CARPER et al.	
	9			Art Unit	n/a	
	(use as many she	ets as	necessary)	Examiner Name	n/a	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	121497 (07783-0172)	

			U.S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
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Initials *		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
_	V	US-5,455,106	10-03-1995	Steffier	
	W	US- 5,336,350	08-09-1994	Singh	
	X	US- 5,330,854	07-19-1994	Singh et al.	
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	Z	US- 5,015,540	05-14-1991	Borom et al.	
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		FOREIGN PA	TENT DOCU	MENTS		
		Foreign Patent Document	0.455	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY			T⁵
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.